

Christmas and New Year's Greetings

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After 8 P. M.
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"Let our courteous representative call upon you.

You will be pleased with our service"

Honolulu Gas Company, Limited

To our many consumers and friends:

It is our earnest desire to make our service to you, for the coming year, 1915, more satisfactory than that of the past year, if possible.

Any suggestions that our patrons may make, toward the betterment of our service, in any of its branches, will receive our careful consideration—and be heartily appreciated.

AND NOW—

we wish you, one and all, a very Merry Xmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

HAWAII'S MONEY FOR WAR RELIEF WELL SPENT; EVERY PENNY COUNTS

Belgian Plight is Worst in History — American Commission Feeding 31,000 Babies in Addition to Overwhelmingly Large Number of Adults — Germany Does Not Block Distribution of Supplies — Why Teutons Do Not Assume Duty of Feeding Conquered People

Every cent of money contributed by Hawaii for the relief of the Belgian sufferers is being used effectively. A detailed statement given out by Herbert Hoover, chairman of the American Commission for Relief in Belgium, returned to London today after a week's trip of inspection in Belgium.

Mr. Hoover reported that the distribution of foodstuffs sent in care of the American commission is well under way, but states that the condition of famine which threatened the population of Belgium is still desperate and that on account of the attitude of the belligerents the Belgians still must appeal to the people of the United States for relief.

Caught in Ring of Steel.

"It is difficult to state the position of the civil population of Belgium without appearing hysterical," said Mr. Hoover in his statement. "I do not know that history presents any parallel of a population of 7,000,000 people surrounded by a ring of steel and utterly unable by any conceivable effort of their own to save themselves.

"From the nature of things, it is impossible for the commission even to possess an opinion on the rights and wrongs which have created this situation. The Germans state flatly that the people of Belgium are normally dependent on the importation of foodstuffs for five-sixths of their subsistence; that the Germans have not the slightest objection to the Belgians or anyone else importing foodstuffs into Belgium; that it is not the Germans who have blocked the overseas supply, and that there is no obligation upon them to feed the civil population which could, through the normal course of trade, obtain subsistence.

"The Allies, on the other hand, contend that a free port for the importation of foodstuffs into Belgium would practically amount to a port of entry for food supplies for the Germans. It is enough for us that there are 7,000,000 people ground between two gigantic millstones.

"We are meeting with no obstruction from the military authorities of Belgium in the prosecution of our work. Not one loaf of bread or one spoonful of salt that we have intro-

duced has been taken by the military. The most stringent orders have been given that we shall have no interference, and our members meet with respect and assistance in all quarters.

"There are considerable quantities of vegetables available in certain districts. In some localities there is still a supply of cereals for two or three weeks, but in certain other localities there has been no bread available for over a fortnight. Every soul will be dependent upon us for bread within 30 days.

"So far our efforts have necessarily been devoted to provisioning the larger centers. It requires organization and patience to be able to penetrate the outlying towns and villages.

Seventy Per Cent are Idle.

"The clock has absolutely stopped in Belgium. An industrial country which was dependent on the overseas before is now walled up, with 70 per cent of the people idle. There are no telegraphs, telephones, railways or post-offices except for military purposes. The Belgians, of a military necessity, are not allowed to pass from their own towns, and consequently there is no communication throughout the country except by personal visits of our own members.

"Transportation by rail is possible only in a few directions, and then must await military necessity. The wonderful canal system is blocked in many places by the destruction of bridges, and some canals have been allowed to run dry. Therefore it becomes part of our business to get these cleared and to stimulate the subsidiary transport services of the country, not only for the transportation of our food but to permit the transportation of coal from the Belgian mines—a dire necessity this winter.

"There are no courts and the prisons have been emptied, but the gendarmerie have remained at their posts and are themselves both policemen and judges. The people are most law-abiding. The central and provincial governments have disappeared. The city and communal governments, however, still exist, and through them the distribution of food is being arranged.

Inspired by Starving People.

"The Belgians are applying themselves with the most extraordinary devotion to the perfection of this organization, and if we lacked any other inspiration for exertion in our part of the labor to save these people sufficient lies in this devoted work of the

rich and the poor, a veritable democracy of famine which is working night and day to perform their part.

"The detail of the method is that after investigation by the communal authorities food tickets are issued indicating the number and amount of rations the holder is entitled to, and twice daily this ticket is presented by the holder to the food canteens for its quota and is duly punched. The ration consists of bread, soup containing potatoes, with a little coffee and salt.

"All those who can afford to pay are compelled to pay the communal authorities at the rate of four cents per diem a ration. The destitute are given tickets gratis. The communal authorities contribute to the relief committee one cent per diem per capita on the total tickets issued in their commune, they obtaining this revenue from the tickets sold or by public subscription in the communes through the national committee under our supervision.

"These funds ultimately become available to us for the purchase of food. Furthermore—the same ration of bread and salt per diem is sold through the bakeries to agreed lists of the more well-to-do population, and as this bread is disposed of at a positive profit our income has some further increase. Taking it altogether about one-half of the food which we send to Belgium is paid for, so when the American people contribute two shiploads of food they enable us to buy one more cargo.

Thirty Kitchens in Brussels.

"As a type of organization that of Brussels is simply a large example of those in each locality. In that city at present there are fourteen communal kitchens and 137 canteens for adults, and there are sixteen kitchens and thirty-four canteens for children under three years of age. For adults service food is prepared in the communal kitchens and is distributed to the canteens twice daily. The kitchens and canteens for babies are maintained as a separate organization in each commune.

"In order to guarantee that children are properly fed and that they are not subjected to the rigorous rations issued to adults, parents are compelled to produce all children to communal doctors who are on constant duty in charge of the canteens. Five different kinds of tickets are issued the mothers, calling for different types of rations. The tickets for the first six months of a child's life are practically for milk alone. Various grades of tickets gradually evolve into the introduction of more solid foods until children three years of age fall on the general canteen. In order to provide milk the communes have taken over dairies.

31,000 Babies on Roll.

"The amount and character of the destitution may perhaps be appreciated from the present position in Brussels. Of the population of about 650,000 remaining in the city, an average of 210,000 were on the adult canteens and 31,000 babies were on the baby canteens last week, or more than one-third of the total population. There is probably no more pitiable sight ever presented than the long lines of mothers with children in arms waiting their

turn at these canteens. In the industrial districts, where the people naturally would have less stores on hand than in the capital, a much larger population is now on the communal canteens, in some instances over 60 per cent of the whole number.

"Brussels consumed 5000 sacks of flour per diem. There were just 921 sacks of flour in the city when our first shipment of foodstuffs arrived. When I left Brussels yesterday morning there were 15,000 sacks in the city, or about five days' supply. We have about two or three days' supply in Liege and similar supplies in other centers such as Louvain, Charleroi, Namur and Luxembourg."

American Students Depart.

The American students at Oxford, who have volunteered for relief work in Belgium, today departed for the Continent to take up the work of assisting the American relief commission in the distribution of food. Since the first squad of volunteers was chosen the commission has received applications from many other Rhodes scholars, whose services will be accepted if they prove to be qualified for the work.

The first volunteers are to serve for the six weeks of the mid-term vacation. Efforts will be made to obtain a six months' leave of absence for them.

The students are to be sent in pairs to remote points, where distribution depots will be established. They will be permitted to travel from one district to another by the Germans. Not only will passes be given to them, but they will have the use of military lines of communication. They are to have supervision over the actual distribution of the foodstuffs sent in by the commission. An English-speaking Belgian will be attached to each pair of students.

C. F. Hawkins of Warwick, N. Y., has been accepted for service.

COLONEL ROOSEVELT TO WRITE FOR MAGAZINE

[By Latest Mail]

NEW YORK, N. Y. — Theodore Roosevelt has just signed a three year's contract with the Metropolitan Magazine. It was learned today, and will contribute exclusive articles to that magazine on political, economic and scientific subjects.

Just what will be the spirit and policy of the articles which he will write is not known.

Roosevelt may continue to write on outdoor life or explorations for other publications. At the time of his resignation from the Outlook, last July, it was declared that he would continue to occasionally contribute some articles on social and industrial subjects.

While playing golf at Caldwell, N. J., Walter C. Bradley, a lawyer, killed a pheasant in flight by a ball driven from the first tee.

Dr. Raymond St. Clair of Reno, Nev., recovered radium valued at \$1500 from a stove where it had been accidentally thrown.



I am a mysterious thing; the most powerful, most kindly influence in the world.

Unseen, unheralded I slip into the palaces of kings; softly I glide into the peasant hut. I linger in a billion hearts; I inhabit a thousand lands. Sorry, indeed, is the land that knows me not.

I bring greater happiness to all who are happy; I assuage the misery of the miserable.

I am the inspiration of a million tender thoughts, the reminder of a million happy memories.

Beneficence, humanity mark my passing. I tug at the heart-strings and loosen the purse-strings.

I sway a nation as I sway a child.

And, ah, the children, how they love me! Were I not, what heartburnings would there be; what a pitiful void in the dream world of prattling childland!

I am the hallowed incarnation of their pretty imaginings; I am the materialization of their dream castle.

I am, I was, I shall be, until the end of the earth.

I am supreme; I am necessary to the peace of the world and the happiness of mankind. For am I not the personification of "Peace on earth and good will toward men?"

I am universal, all-powerful, all-pervading.

I am the Spirit of Christmas

WE NOW desire to express our most sincere appreciation to our many friends and patrons for their business of the year 1914, and wish them a very Merry Xmas and all the possible prosperity for a Happy New Year.

SACHS

We will close Friday, December 25, and Saturday, December 26.